

Report of the Leukosis Committee

American Association of Avian Pathologists

No specific projects were undertaken by the Committee as a group this year. It was agreed by most Committee members that no workshop should be held this year. While most committee members recognize the desirability for clear concise classification and nomenclature with respect to diseases of the leukosis complex, it was agreed to not offer a specific recommendation on nomenclature and classification and to urge the appropriate committee to do such as soon as sufficient information is developed to clarify the matter.

Since our Committee has not met formally, few specific recommendations are made.

However several suggestions for committee projects and proposals were discussed during the year by committee members and they are as follows:

1. preparation of a "state of the disease" report.

This has been done several years in the past through workshops, however it was decided not to undertake it this year. There was not complete agreement among committee members as to whether this report should be limited to Association members or whether the profession had a responsibility to advise the poultry industry of progress being made. There was some concern expressed over the publicity being given to ideas and preliminary investigations and the enthusiasm being generated as a result and the possibility of over-optimism by the poultry industry which could not be supported by facts.

2. a medium for the exchange of research information.

Because of the lag time between the completion of research and the detailed publication, it was suggested that a way be found for the exchange of research information following completion and prior to publication. The USDA staff at East Lansing, Michigan have made a sincere effort to list current publications and to distribute prepublication copies of manuscripts but this has not been reciprocated. It is recommended that some medium be developed to accomplish this but no project has been undertaken by this committee.

3. to facilitate disease incidence reporting and inspection service records, it is recommended that a standard nomenclature for diseases of the Avian Leukosis Complex be developed and adopted.

Members of the leukosis committee have participated in other activities concerned with the subject leukosis. Of significance was the launching of the National Poultry Research Foundation with avian leukosis the primary object being given emphasis. Five members of the leukosis committee (Burmester, Cover, Hughes, Sevoian, Schmittle) serve on the 14 member technical advisory committee to the Board of Trustees of the Foundation and have functioned to review research proposals and make recommendations to the Board. Through subcommittees of the technical advisory committee, an effort is being made to review current research and to bring about some coordination of research through proposals and recommendations for funding. Also the leukosis committee serves as a resource to other AAAP sponsored activities concerning leukosis.

Respectfully submitted,

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